



JAN 12 2004

The Honorable Frank H. Murkowski
Governor of Alaska
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

Dear Governor Murkowski:

It is a pleasure to respond positively to the State of Alaska's request for a waiver of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Title I-B 20% transfer authority at Section 133(b)(4) and 20 CFR 667.140. The waiver eliminates the 20% limitation on transferring funds between the Adult and the Dislocated Worker programs. As you know, this request is consistent with one of the improvements that the Administration is seeking in the reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act—the consolidation of the WIA Adult, WIA Dislocated Worker and Wagner-Peyser Act (Employment Service) funding streams.

This consolidation would provide states with maximum flexibility to meet unique workforce needs. In the meantime, we hope this waiver will assist your state in meeting its workforce needs and improving programmatic outcomes at the local level and statewide.

The following is the disposition of the state's waiver submission.

Waiver: Waive the WIA Title I-B 20% transfer authority at Section 133(b)(4) and 20 CFR 667.140.

The state is requesting a waiver (copy enclosed) to eliminate the 20% limitation on transferring funds between the Adult and the Dislocated Worker programs at WIA Section 133(b)(4). The state indicates that the waiver would provide local boards with an unlimited ability to transfer funds between these programs. The state believes that this increased flexibility and control would allow the boards to better respond to changes and critical needs within their local areas, thus, better utilizing limited funds.



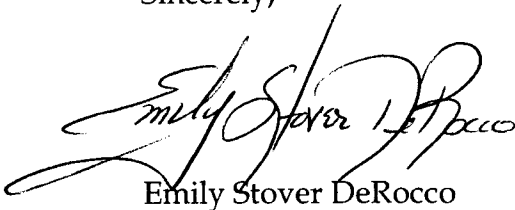
A Proud Member of America's Workforce Network

The waiver is written in the format identified in WIA Section 189(i)(4)(B) and 20 CFR 661.420(c) and appears to meet the standard for approval at 20 CFR 661.420(e). Accordingly, the state is granted a waiver of the application of the 20% funds transfer limitation at WIA Section 133(b)(4), consistent with the waiver plan submission. This waiver will permit the state to approve local area requests to transfer amounts of up to 100% of local area allocations between the Adult and Dislocated Worker funding streams, as requested. The duration of the approved waiver is through June 30, 2004, the current period of WIA authorization.

The granted waiver is incorporated by reference into the state's WIA Grant Agreement, as provided for under paragraph 3 of the executed Agreement, and also constitutes a modification of Alaska's approved five-year strategic plan. A copy of each letter should be filed with the state's WIA Grant Agreement and the state's approved five-year strategic plan, as appropriate.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with you and achieving better workforce investment outcomes. We are prepared to entertain other state and local-level waiver requests that you may wish to submit, consistent with the provisions of the WIA statute and regulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emily Stover DeRocco", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Enclosure